

WILLIAM J. McCORMICK.

MARCH 23, 1860.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAPPAN, from the Committee on Claims, made the following

R E P O R T.

*The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Elizabeth B. McCormick, widow of William J. McCormick, "praying additional compensation for extra services of her late husband," have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:*

That William J. McCormick was postmaster of the House of Representatives from December, 1826, to December, 1843, a period of seventeen years; that during this period of service he had charge of the stationery of the House, and attended to its reception, safe-keeping, and distribution; such was a part of the duty of the postmaster, and the husband of the petitioner, it is presumed, discharged the duty faithfully. It may have been, and perhaps was, during Mr. McCormick's term of office, a very laborious post, but not so laborious as to induce him to resign to others equally patriotic and willing to serve their country. Judging from his long-continued service, he was evidently willing to discharge the labor for the salary allowed him. On his removal and the election of his successor, a rearrangement of duties placed the stationery in charge of a clerk under the Clerk of the House, with a salary of \$1,800 per annum. The petitioner now asks to be allowed an additional sum for the services of her husband in keeping and distributing stationery. Your committee can perceive no reason in such a demand. Mr. McCormick discharged only the duties of postmaster during the time he held the office.

Your committee therefore report back the petition, and ask to be discharged from its further consideration.

WILLIAM J. MCCORMICK

March 25, 1867.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAYLOR, from the Committee on Claims, reads the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the petition of John A. McCornick, widow of William J. McCornick, "praying an additional compensation for services by her late husband," have had the same under consideration, and they have to report:

That William J. McCornick was postmaster of the House of Representatives from December, 1835, to December, 1842, a period of seven years; that during this period of service he had charge of the mail of the House, and attended to its receipt, forwarding, and distribution; and was a part of the duty of the postmaster, and the husband of the petitioner, is a government document of the first rank. It may have been, and perhaps was, during Mr. McCornick's term of office a very laborious post, but not so laborious as to induce him to resign, to leave equally laborious and willing to serve his country. Judging from his long-continued service, he was evidently willing to discharge the labor for the salary allowed him. On his removal and the election of his successor, a rearrangement of duties placed the stationery in charge of a clerk under the Chief of the House, with a salary of \$1,000 per annum. The postmaster now asks to be allowed an additional sum for the services of her husband in keeping and distributing stationery. Your committee can perceive no reason in such a demand. Mr. McCornick discharged only the duties of postmaster during the time he held the office. Your committee therefore report back the petition, and ask to be discharged from its further consideration.